

**§ 637.15 What are cooperative projects?**

(a) Cooperative project grants assist groups of nonprofit accredited colleges and universities to work together to conduct a science improvement project.

(b) Activities that the Secretary may fund under cooperative projects include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) Assisting institutions in sharing facilities and personnel;
- (2) Disseminating information about established programs in science and engineering;
- (3) Supporting cooperative efforts to strengthen the institutions' science and engineering programs; and
- (4) Carrying out a combination of any of the activities in paragraphs (c)(1)–(3) of this section.

(c) Eligible applicants for cooperative projects are groups of nonprofit accredited colleges and universities whose primary fiscal agent is an eligible minority institution as defined in § 637.4(b).

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1067–1067c, 1067g–1067k, 1068, and 1068b)

**Subpart C—How Does One Apply for a Grant?**

**§ 637.21 Application procedures.**

One applies for a grant under the procedures of EDGAR §§ 75.100 through 75.129.

**Subpart D—How Does the Secretary Make a Grant?**

**§ 637.31 How does the Secretary evaluate an application?**

(a) The Secretary evaluates an application on the basis of the criteria in § 637.32.

(b) The Secretary informs applicants of the maximum possible score for each criterion in the application package or in a notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(c) The Secretary gives priority to applicants which have not previously received funding from the program and to previous grantees with a proven record of success, as well as to applications that contribute to achieving bal-

ance among funded projects with respect to:

- (1) Geographic region;
- (2) Academic discipline; and
- (3) Project type.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1067–1067c, 1067g–1067k, 1068, and 1068b)

[46 FR 51204, Oct. 16, 1981, as amended at 52 FR 43545, Nov. 12, 1987; 70 FR 13374, Mar. 21, 2005]

**§ 637.32 What selection criteria does the Secretary use?**

The Secretary evaluates applications on the basis of the criteria in this section.

(a) *Plan of operation.* (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows the quality of the plan of operation for the project.

(2) The Secretary looks for information that shows—

(i) Higher quality in the design of the project;

(ii) An effective plan of management that insures proper and efficient administration of the project;

(iii) A clear description of how the objectives of the project relate to the purpose of the program;

(iv) The way the applicant plans to use its resources and personnel to achieve each objective; and

(v) Methods of coordination. (See 34 CFR 75.580)

(b) *Quality of key personnel.* (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows the quality of the key personnel the applicant plans to use on the project.

(2) The Secretary looks for information that shows—

(i) The qualifications of the project director (if one is to be used);

(ii) The qualifications of each of the other key personnel to be used in the project;

(iii) The time that each person referred to in paragraphs (b)(2) (i) and (ii) of this section plans to commit to the project.

(iv) The extent to which the applicant, as part of its nondiscriminatory employment practices, encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have been traditionally underrepresented, such as members of a racial